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Q. Critically evaluate the foundation of Allama Iqbal's Concept of Muslim Separatism in the context of Indo-Pak Subcontinent.

Ans: The Muslims of the Subcontinent had become a minority due to western democracy. But ideology of Pakistan save Muslims of the Sub-continent and became the cause of independence. The Muslims of India got freedom and social betterment.

Allama Iqbal was one of the Muslim leaders who for the first time gave the concept of a separate state for the Muslim keeping in view the two nation theory. But he never used the word of Pakistan in his speeches. His demand for separate homeland for the Muslims of the Subcontinent is considered as a demand for separate Pakistan and all his saying and addresses are considered as the ideology of Pakistan.

1) Separate Recognition of Muslims

Allama Iqbal made it clear that Muslims have separate recognition from Hindu on the base of

Religion and culture. ~~identity~~

In this regard he said:

"India is not a country. It is a sub-continent of human beings belonging to different languages and practicing different religions. Muslim nation has its own religions and culture identity"

2) Condemnation of western Democratic concepts:

Allama Iqbal was strongly against the western concept of democracy. Despite flourishing all over world, this system cannot provide solution of the problem of Islamic world. Iqbal was of the view that all social and political and social problems can be solved with the help of Islamic system. He said, western democracy is devoid of depth, it has merely an attractive outlook.

3) Concept of Separate Muslim State:

Dr. Muhammad Allama Iqbal was a great supporter and preacher of a separate Muslim state. He gave this idea of a separate state for the

Muslim in 1930 while addressing the annual ~~mea~~ meeting of All India Muslim League in Allah Abad,

"I want to see the Punjab, NWFP Sindh and Balochistan in the form of one homogenous State, whether India gets independences under the crown of England or out of it, if I think independent State of western ~~Provinces~~ ^{Provinces} is the destiny of the People living there."

4) Commendation of Idea of Single Nation

In March, 1909 when Iqbal was asked to address a meeting held by Minvra Raj Amritsar but he refused to address that meeting & said.

"I remained the Support of this idea but now I am of the view that Preservation of Separate nationhood is useful for Hindus and Muslims birth. To have the concept of single nation in India is no doubt poetic and beautiful but impractical regarding Present circumstances"

5) Concept of two Nation Theory:

Allama Iqbal explaining the two nation theory as:

"Despite living together for 1000 years Hindu and muslim have their own individual ideologies so the only solution or political conflict in india is to have a separate independent Parliament for each nation.

6)

Eradication of Racial & Regional Prejudices:

Allama Iqbal rejected the Racial & Regional Prejudices. One he said in this regard as:

"concept of nation and homeland is confusing the muslims. That is why Islamic human objects are becoming dim. It is also possible that these concept may destroy the real concepts of Islam"

7) Explanation of Relation of Islam & Politics:

Allama Iqbal was in the favour of basic concept that Politics is a part of religion (Islam) and Islam provides complete guidance about it.

"Islam does not consider matter and soul separate from each other Allah, universe and state all are

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basic elements of single unit. Man is not so ellien that he should leave worldly affairs for the sake of religion."

Separate Existence of Muslims:

The fact is that even the enemies acknowledge that it was Iqbal who made the idea of distinct Muslim Nationhood crystal clear in the minds of the masses.

A bigoted Hindu leader Madam Mohan Malwiga once remarked

"Before Iqbal, we hold the slightest side idea that the muslim possessed a separate existence in India. we regarded them to be a part of a common nationalism"

Allama Iqbal's concept of Muslim separatism argue that his vision was essential for protecting the political, cultural, and religious identity of Muslims in India. In a Hindu-majority State, Muslims feared being politically marginalized, economically disadvantaged, and culturally assimilated. The idea of Muslim Separatism provided a platform for Muslims to preserve their distinct way of life, especially their adherence to Islamic law and values, which would ^{have} been difficult under a secular or Hindu-majority framework. By advocating for a separate Muslim state, Iqbal sought to prevent Muslims from becoming second-class citizens, a concern grounded in historical experiences of colonialism and the Hindu-Muslim power imbalance.

The absence of a united Muslim front could have led to loss of Islamic culture and political influence in the subcontinent.

When considering Kashmir and Bangladesh, 1947's separatist vision, as initially proposed, was limited to muslim-majority regions in North-Western India (Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and the complexities of Kashmir and Bengal were not fully addressed. However, the Kashmir issue stems largely from post-partition political conflicts, and Bangladesh's eventual separation was more about internal tensions rather than a rejection of 1947's ideology.